resents almost as much pollution protection, gentlemen, as ways of augmenting our supplies of water. This is not a "blue sky," long-range program; instead, it represents systems which are in use today and which are being placed in use every day.

Gentlemen, while I have been talking to you I have been conducting that experiment because the water I have been drinking is treated waste water. This is purified waste water.

Gentlemen, this water—no sleight-of-hand—this water is safe and meets or exceeds the highest drinking water quality standard anywhere. I might say my staff has indicated it is safe. This is in part a tribute to the staff. It also represents my faith in my staff.

Gentlemen, in conclusion, I might say I will show the other bottle to Senator Jackson. What this other bottle represents, sir, is drinking water of the common variety. This is treated waste water by some advanced techniques.

Gentlemen, I have tried to illustrate, perhaps by a dramatic example, what, I think, indicates what can be done and what is being done. We do have a limited amount of water. We have some glasses. We will be pleased to pass them around to the group and to anybody who would like to participate.

The CHAIRMAN. You are extending this doctrine of faith quite far.

Dr. WEINBERGER. Gentlemen, I thank you. If there are any questions at this point.

The CHAIRMAN. Doctor, how much water are we wasting at the present time by failure to utilize this process of reuse for various purposes, either for agricultural use or for human consumption. Do you have any figures on that or can you estimate it?

Dr. WEINBERGER. Sir, I do not because one of the assignments given to us by the committee last year was to come up with a specific figure. Every stream in the country which is polluted, if you will, is an example of us not using that stream to the fullest. By this particular experiment, which is perhaps the ultimate, I am not suggesting this is what we need every place.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, to follow up on that point, what is happening on the cost factor? You are involved in research to achieve these reuse objectives. What can you tell us about costs?

Dr. WEINBERGER. Let me come back to one of the bottles—if one looks at this from a pollution control point of view, the cost of providing this degree of treatment—the primary and secondary treatment—will be somewhere between $50 and $200 per 1 million gallons.

The CHAIRMAN. Which is a relatively low cost?

Dr. WEINBERGER. Yes, sir. Now, we have cut the cost by approximately 50 percent more. In other words, we actually have plants in operation today, where to cut the pollutant level by using carbon adsorption, all the way to here, costs about another 10 cents per 1,000 gallons. I might say this (primary and secondary) treatment plus carbon adsorption, plus chlorination would remove most of the pollution and would take care of bacterial pollution. This is actually demonstrated in a rather large pilot plant.

Further treatment, using an electrodiolysis or reverse osmosis process, would remove the salt content. Reverse osmosis is based very much on the treatment being developed by the Office of Saline Water. The current project we are talking about here may very well be building heavily on their technology.